OCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Šimon E. Booth 4951 Woodstone #1413 San Antonio, Tx. 78230

April 12, 1999

PECEIVED

100 16 1999

FOR MAIN PRINT

Boc.hhigg-ze

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been researching the current pending legislation concerning the possible licensing of low-power local FM radio stations. I must say that I find the concept very intriguing and in fact an associate and myself are exploring this possibility in the hopes that in fact the Commission does rule in favor of such licensing.

Low-power broadcasting opens up many possibilities for truly local community-oriented radio as well as for local organizations and small business groups to enter the field of broadcasting without having to contend with the prohibitive cost of trying to establish a 'conventional' radio station. Current radio is the domain of corporate entities which have increasingly removed local stations in many markets from their local audiences as well as making the costs of starting or owning a station well beyond the means of any group not part of the existing corporate broadcasting entities. Many voices in the community are thus unable to find an outlet alongside the stations that, due to the trend in corporate ownership, fail to reflect any real diversity of programming.

In many communities there is the local political and arts and music scenes that could be represented and given a real outlet via local low-power stations, and community affairs programming could be made a part of regular programming instead of being used as 'filler' for airtime as is done on most stations nowadays. Also, from a business standpoint, a low-power station would be able to offer many local businesses an opportunity to advertise where they might not have been able to in the past due to the prohibitive costs of advertising time slots on most existing radio stations.

Beyond this, there are many musical artists, both in the community and elsewhere, that might have a large 'fan base' but not radio exposure despite being successful in having their recordings marketed and sold. Community-based radio could cater to a more eclectic taste among many radio listeners by featuring underrepresented musical talent.

What is described above is in fact our intention if allowed the opportunity to obtain a license to establish and operate such a station. We both hold Associates Degrees in Radio/Television/ and film and both are knowledgeable in station operations, and my associate in fact has experience as on-air talent and is currently working as a console operator at a local station.

We would like any available information about the progress so far of legislation and information on how one might apply for a license if, or hopefully when, low power broadcast licenses become a reality. We would also like any Commission-related technical information, including any

No. of Copies rec'd Ot	
List A B C D E	

regulations regarding where a station may or may not be physically set up.

We are currently researching possible methods of financing in the hopes that the legislation does indeed pass, and we would like to know if it would be legāl for us to purchase equipment before a license is issued. I offer my sincerest assurances that we WOULD NOT operate any such transmitting equipment until properly licensed to do so.

We in the strongest possible way totally oppose any and all illegal operations.

We appreciate your attention and look forward to hearing further about what we hope will be a new dimension in local broadcasting.

Sincerety,

Simon E. Booth

John C. Harrison